

# AVILA AIMS

# 1972

keep Avila College charted  
toward its ten-year goal  
of growth and expansion

Published by Avila College, Kansas City, Missouri, for friends and alumnae

SUMMER, 1963

## College Move Begins

Avila College will move to the new campus at 11901 Wornall Road the first week of September. The move heralds the beginning of a new era for the college and the first fulfillment of the development plans announced three years ago.

The college will be vacating the 56th and Main Street campus which it has shared with St. Teresa's Academy since the founding of the college in 1916.

The first two structures to be completed on a proposed 12-structure campus are the academic and the administration-library buildings. Both were started in January of this year with Massman Construction Co. the general contractor.



O'Rielly Hall (Academic Building)

Included in the academic building which will be known as Margaret O'Rielly Hall are four science laboratories, class rooms, faculty offices, a science lecture hall, language laboratory and temporary student lounge and cafeteria facilities. The library-administration building has the library located on the first level with administration offices, chapel, and conference room on the second level. The two structures will enable enrollment to increase to approximately 600 students.

All fall classes, both college credit and non-credit, will be held on the new campus. All offices of the college will be moved to the new campus.



Administration-Library Building

### Equipment Fund Progress

Two buildings have been financed through a one million dollar grant from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and an additional \$250,000 from the college building fund. Furnishings and equipment are costing an additional \$125,000.

Thus far for 1963, \$75,000 has been raised for equipment through the alumnae fund and the Continuing Support Program. Working on the Continuing Support Program with Sister Olive Louise, college president, and the development office, are 57 men who are Envoys for Avila College and the Board of Councilors. Contacts have been made with Kansas City business firms and individuals for the major portion of the \$75,000.

Efforts by both the Envoys and the alumnae will continue through the remainder of the year to realize the additional \$50,000 needed for the furnishings of O'Rielly Hall and the administration-library building.

### Next Two Buildings

Beginning in late fall, the student dormitory and student center will become the third and fourth buildings to be constructed on the new campus. Bids will be announced within the next month with construction beginning later.

These two buildings will be financed principally with government loan funds. The college must participate in the construction cost of the student union and provide all furnishings. The latter are estimated at \$125,000.

## CONFER HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary degrees were presented by Avila College for the first time in its history at Baccalaureate on May 31.

Senator Stuart Symington, who delivered the traditional baccalaureate address, received an honorary doctor of laws degree. Homer Wadsworth, president, Kansas City, Mo. Board of Education, and the Very Rev. Maurice Van Ackeren, S.J, president, Rockhurst College, received honorary doctor of education degrees in recognition of their contributions to higher education. An honorary doctor of letters degree was presented to the Most Rev. Charles H. Helmsing, D.D., bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph, in recognition of his achievements as ordinary of that diocese and of Springfield-Cape Girardeau.



Father Van Ackeren, Mr. Wadsworth, Mayor Davis, Bishop Helmsing, Senator Symington

In his address, Symington reminded the graduates that "Education is a trust, and its torch is now being passed on to you and your generation. Our democratic system is, in effect, a forum to promote the search for truth, and all the liberties guaranteed by our Constitution give us that right, to learn, and then to follow."

Citations for the degrees were delivered by Dr. Charles Kimball, president, Midwest Research Institute; Henry Haskell, foreign editor, Kansas City Star; Ilus Davis, mayor of Kansas City, Mo.; and Alfred Blasco, member of the college board of councilors and chairman of Interstate Securities.

### Graduates Receive Degrees



Father Luke Feldstein, O. P.,  
Dr. Kimball

and to recognize that the origin of all progress is creative thought."

Degrees were conferred upon the graduates by Bishop Helmsing. Fifty-six women received Bachelor of Arts degrees and eleven received Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

Dr. Kimball was the speaker at commencement exercises held June 1. The scientist encouraged the graduates to develop "inquiring minds." "The searching attitude can free the mind, exalt the spirit, and bring the ultimate satisfaction of happiness," he said. "I counsel you to cultivate this great resource

## Fund Reaches Record High

An all-time high has been reached in this year's alumnae fund, according to Betty Bourk Aylward '44, chairman of the event.

Alumnae contributions directed to the college have exceeded \$6,000, with 214 alumnae giving an average of \$28.00. The percentage of participation remains low, however. Contributions represent only 14% of the 1500 alumnae, or 13% below the national average.

Mrs. Aylward, in discussing the importance of the alumnae fund to the development of the college, pointed out that if the 1300 alumnae who have not given to the fund would do so to the fullest of their capacity, the Avila College Alumnae Association could have one of the highest participation rates in the country. This figure, she said, represents to business and industry the strength of the alumnae's interest in their college and is a consideration in the awarding of grants and other financial support. "The importance of every gift," she continued, "whatever the amount, cannot be over-emphasized."

Sister Olive Louise, college president, said that contributions to the fund are being used to equip and furnish the new campus. "We want every alumna," she said, "to realize that she is as much an integral part of the new campus as she is of the old. This realization can be fostered by sharing in this most vital effort."

## Name New Faculty

Major changes and additions to the faculty will be effective with the opening of the fall term. The new academic dean will be Sister Helen Joseph Coerver, C.S.J., former head of the chemistry department, Fontbonne College. The new treasurer will be Sister Mary Aurelia Strecker, C.S.J., also of Fontbonne.

Director of Admissions will be Margo Thornhill, a recent graduate of the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Eighteen new teaching faculty will join the staff. Sister Mary Loretta Langendorf comes from the chairmanship of the Fontbonne English department to fill a similar position at Avila. She will be assisted by Sister Margaret John Purcell. Both hold doctorate degrees in English.

Sister Dolorita Marie Dougherty, Ph.D., will be chairman of the history department. Sister Marie Francis Willett, M.A., will head the business and economic department.

New nursing instructors include Ann Breslin, M.S.N., and Sister Catherine Louise Rutte, M.S.

In the education department will be Edward E. Fields, Ed.D., Harold Gersh, M.A.; Thomas Taff, M.A., Aileen Shine, Ed.D., and Odell Thurman, Ed.D.

Thomas T. Webster, M.A., will be chairman of the sociology department. Sister Ann Dominic Tassone, M.A. and Ronald D. Conrad, M.A., will join the mathematics faculty. Sister Paul Louise Anth, M.S., will instruct in dietetics.

Sister Anne Gregory Kelly, M.A., joins the Spanish department. Ursula Hohnack Pfahl, whose graduate degree is from the University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany, will instruct in French and German.



## Form New College Alumnae Association

A new Avila College Alumnae Association was organized at April Homecoming. Officers were elected and work on new by-laws and chapter formation began immediately.

Sister Olive Louise, college president, in making the announcement, said "The goals of a college alumnae association and those of a high school organization are necessarily diverse because of the natures of the institutions which they support. A college has many problems which a high school, with its 'built-in' student body, does not have. In addition, a physical separation of the campuses is taking place. With these factors in mind, the decision was made by college and academy administrative officers to provide separate alumnae associations."

### New Officers Elected

The first national officers of the Avila College Alumnae Association are: Mary Margaret Killiger O'Sullivan '26, president; Mary Ronna Helm '35, first vice president; Peggy O'Neill Soden '43, second vice president; Martha Hodes '61, secretary; and Barbara Riley '52, treasurer.

Mrs. O'Sullivan explained that the present national officers, in accordance with the new by-laws, will serve in a dual capacity for one year as both national and Kansas City chapter officers. They will continue to serve as chapter officers until the next chapter election in 1965.

Members of the national board for the coming year are Valorie Brice '56; Jean Ann Cannon Jordan '54; Marilyn Carrigan Fennesey '55; Margaret Courter '59; Marilyn Hentges Hodes '59; Marjorie McGonigle '46; Patsy Phelps '61; Barbara Reitz Schweiger '53; and Hazel Capps Wilson '58.

### National Formation

A national election will be conducted by mail by the alumnae office in the spring of 1964, the alumnae president said. Candidates will be selected by a nominating committee appointed by the board. The results of the balloting will be announced at Homecoming, where the new officers will be installed.

The national board of directors will be comprised of the elective officers, the presidents of the chapters, and the alumnae secretary. The president of the college will be an honorary member of the board.

### Chapter Formation

According to Sandra Edelman, alumnae secretary, chapters will be formed in other cities throughout the country in the coming months. Each chapter will elect its own officers for two-year terms. Chapter officers will appoint, according to the needs of the chapter, chairmen of social, telephone, courtesy, nominating, and ways and means committees (standing committees). These chairmen, together with the elected officers, will comprise the chapter executive committee.

Chairmen of the standing committees of the Kansas City chapter are: Jean Ann Cannon Jordan '54 and Barbara Reitz Schweiger '53, co-chairmen, ways and

## Homecoming Highlights



New officers of the Avila College Alumnae Association (left to right): Martha Hodes '61, secretary; Peggy O'Neill Soden '43, second vice president; Mary Margaret Killiger O'Sullivan '26, president; Mary Ronna Helm '35, first vice president; Barbara Riley '52, treasurer.



Michaela Sheehy, recipient of the Avila College alumnae scholarship for 1963-64.



Sister Olive Louise, college president; Mrs. O'Sullivan; Mary K. Ottenstein Fogarty '53, immediate past-president.

(Continued on next page)

## HONOR STUDENTS, ALUMNAE

Alumnae and students of Avila College were honored at the annual Honors Convocation on May 13.

Receiving the Avila Medal, a new medal struck to honor students and alumnae, were four alumnae: Geraldine Carrigan, '49, feature writer for the Catholic Reporter; Mary K. Ottenstein Fogarty '53, immediate past-president of the alumnae association; Mary Jo Musick Podrebarac '55, a former instructor in chemistry at the college; and Dr. Aileen Shine '50, principal of Humboldt School.

Also receiving the medal were Mrs. L. A. Lynch, a benefactor of the college, and three graduates: Mrs. Frances Orozco, Yasuko Sakaki, and Judith Spoor.

In presenting the medals, Sister Olive Louise, president of the college, said, "These women exemplify the spirit of the college contained in the motto, 'With God helping there is nothing to fear.' And they have also demonstrated the spirit of St. Teresa of Avila, the patroness of our college, who taught that we must do everything in our natural power to succeed before we can expect supernatural power to intervene."

Joan Banfield was selected by the student body to receive the annual Aris-ton award. Elected to Kappa Gamma Phi was Mary Kay Prebich. Mrs. Beverly Hubble, Kathleen Frye, and Mrs. Loree Breed were elected to Delta Epsilon Sigma. Carmeline Palazzo received the literary award. Miss Sakaki received the Paladin award for service to U.S. and foreign missions. All were members of the graduating class.

## Alumnae Notes

Sandra Janousek Fee '60 and Dorothy Jean Hain '62, both graduate students in mathematics at the University of Kansas, were recently elected to scholastic fraternity membership. Sandra was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Dorothy became a member of Pi Mu Epsilon.

Margaret Hagel '62 received an NDEA grant from the State University College in New York for French studies at the Summer Language Institute. An English major, Margaret teaches in Colony, Kansas.

Daughters to: Marjorie Hogan Thiel '56 (Alicia, born July 23, 1962) and Rosemary Heilman Jordan '56 (June 22, 1963).

Marriages: Gail DeJean '57 to Charles E. Lavis; Mary Joanne McLarney '61 to Gregory W. Hallett. The Lavis are at home in New Orleans, La.; Mary Jo will begin teaching pediatric nursing at Simmons College in Boston this fall.

## NEW ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION (Cont. from page 3)

means committee; Mary Ronnau Helm '35 and Peggy O'Neill Soden '43, co-chairmen, social committee; Marilyn Carrigan Fennesey '55, telephone committee. Chairmen of the nominating and courtesy committees will be appointed soon, Mrs. O'Sullivan said.

### Association Membership

All graduates of the college and all former students of St. Teresa's Junior College and College of St. Teresa form the body of the new organization, Miss Edelman said. She pointed out that women who have attended the college less than one year or who wish to foster the college by participating in alumnae activities may be invited to become "alumnae associates" when a chapter has five or more active members.

### Objectives of the Association

The objectives of the national organization are: to foster friendship among the alumnae; to strengthen the bonds between alumnae and the college; and to promote the welfare of the college. The additional goals of the chapters are to encourage interest in the alumnae fund, Homecoming, and alumnae scholarships; and to interest high schools students in the college by sponsoring events such as Christmas teas.

Miss Edelman stated that there are 1500 alumnae in 41 states; 35% of them are in cities other than Kansas City. She said the new national structure will help bring all alumnae together in a common effort. "The chapter concept," she continued, "will provide alumnae everywhere an opportunity to become an active part of a growing and influential organization. I hope alumnae in other parts of the country who are interested in organizing a local chapter will write to me at the alumnae office for information."

The alumnae office reports that copies of the new by-laws are available upon request.

## FALL CLASSES BEGIN ON NEW CAMPUS

Fall classes begin at the college for credit and non-credit programs Sept. 1. Included for the first time in the Continuing Education program are day classes in Italian, millinery, creative writing, personality development, and art and music.

Evening credit classes in philosophy, history, theology, mathematics, sociology, psychology, English, Spanish, and education begin at 5:00 p.m. Saturday morning classes will begin Sept. 14.

The music and art lessons for children will be taught on the new campus.

Information for any of the programs may be obtained by calling the college at JA 3-3522.

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### AVILA COLLEGE

11901 Wornall Road  
Kansas City 14, Ma.